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## I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1, page 1 with the following paragraph.

-- This is a divisional of U.S. <u>Patent Appl. No. 09/431,099</u>, filed November 1, 1999, now <u>U.S. Patent No. 6,410,705</u>, which claims priority to German Patent Appl. No. 199 41 478.5 filed on September 1, 1999.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 2, page 20 with the following paragraph.

--The plasmids pZ1 and pZ1thrE were incorporated by means of electroporation (Haynes et al.., FEMS Microbiology Letters (1989) 61: 329-334) into the threonine-forming strain Brevibacterium flavum DM368-2. The strain DM368-2 is described in EP-B-0 38590 358940 and is filed as DSM5399. Transformants were identified on the basis of their kanamycin resistance on 15 μg/mL kanamycin-containing LBHIS-agar plates (Liebl et al., FEMS Microbiology Letters (1989) 65: 299-304). The strains Brevibacterium flavum DM368-2 pZ1 and DM368-2 pZ1thrE were obtained in this way.--